

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 419
By Ridgeway

A RESOLUTION to honor Rainey's Store in Jones Mill for fifty years of service to the community.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly is pleased to recognize those businesses which, in addition to enhancing the economy of their respective areas, add a measure of permanence, stability and tradition; and

WHEREAS, Rainey's Store in Jones Mill is one such business, and because of their continued service of over fifty years they are remembered by the good people of their community as an indispensable piece of local history; and

WHEREAS, when Frank and Bernice Rainey began managing the store they purchased fifty years ago in 1945, World War II had just ended and rationing was still ongoing; and

WHEREAS, having a store and almost nothing to sell, they were finally able to buy fifty gallons of gas, twelve pounds of coffee and sixty pounds of sugar; and

WHEREAS, Frank and Bernice operated the store from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.; and

WHEREAS, during those halcyon days, farmers in Jones Mill came to buy feed, harnesses, plow handles, rakes and other supplies; and

WHEREAS, even when they weren't in the field, they brought their kids to drink soda pops or eat Moon Pies; and

WHEREAS, Rainey's Store was a place where people came to learn the news, and there was always a checker game going on; and

WHEREAS, during warmer months, while Bernice worked the store, Frank operated a rolling store through Jones Mill and other rural communities, driving his truck slowly along narrow, dusty roads while peddling groceries, tobacco, bread, eggs, candy and other merchandise; and

WHEREAS, political figures have always recognized the value of the store as numerous governors including Frank Clement, Buford Ellington, Ray Blanton and Lamar Alexander, have dropped by to politic; and

WHEREAS, although Frank Rainey died in 1947, Bernice has continued to operate Rainey's Store in this tradition of warmth and southern hospitality; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we recognize Rainey's Store of Jones Mill upon their fifty years of service to the community, commend the store's success and encourage Mrs. Rainey to maintain the store's tradition of warmth and southern hospitality which adds to the beauty that is Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.